

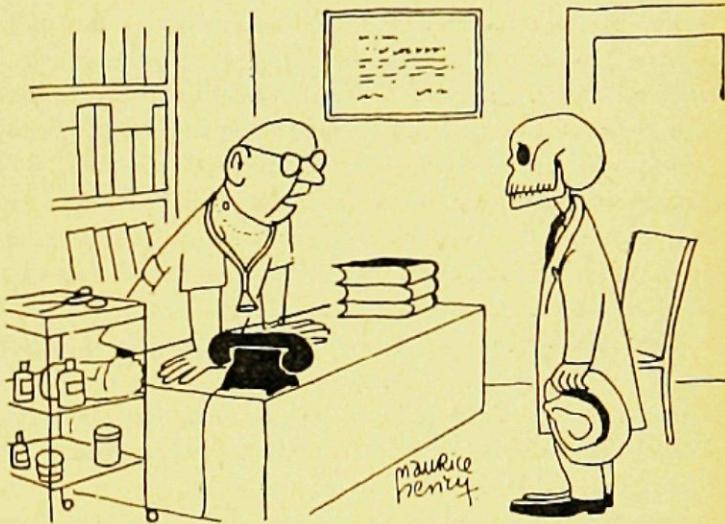
• Abroad •

Elisabethville. Most Europeans and nearly all Americans basing their estimate of the Katanga situation on contemporary factors, are unaware of the deep historical roots of Moise Tshombe's intransigence. The majority of the inhabitants of Katanga belong to one or another branch of the great Lunda (also transcribed as "Balunda") tribe. The Lunda believe themselves to be descended from heaven: they have in fact shown missionaries the very footsteps, near the headwaters of the Congo, made by their ancestors who first alighted on earth. Five hundred years ago they ruled a vast empire stretching from Angola through south Katanga and northern Rhodesia to Lake Tanganyika. It was only in 1908 that they were brought into a single Congolese colony. The word of their paramount chief, known as the Mwenta Lyumuwu, is divine law. Tshombe, in his own right a high-ranking Lunda, is son-in-law of the present Mwenta. It is probable that the Lunda pride of race and heritage is more important than any economic motive in sustaining Katanga's resolve not to submit to nobodies in Léopoldville.

Vatican City. French relations with the Vatican have been cooling, and General de Gaulle may soon replace Ambassador de la Tournelle, whom he blames. There is, however, a political basis to the freeze. Pope John strongly favors Britain's entry into the Common Market, which he expects to strengthen the tendency within the Church of England toward reunion with Rome. He believes de Gaulle to be barring the Common Market gate. At the same time Pope John has been further influenced against de Gaulle by Cardinal Spellman, who is strongly opposed to de Gaulle's policies on NATO, the independent nuclear force and rapprochement with Moscow.

Ulan Bator, Mongolian Peoples Republic. Orthodox Communist doctrine has classified Genghis Khan among history's most ferocious aggressors and tyrants, but—much as the Russians have managed to rework Ivan the Terrible into the approved dialectical scheme—the Mongolians, exhilarated by their newly recognized status, celebrated the 800th anniversary of Genghis' birth this year by hailing him as the founder of the Mongolian nation. The 937,000 Mongols, heretofore scattered with their 23 million animals over 625,000 square miles, are experiencing one of the fastest rates of economic growth in the world, thanks to their geopolitical role as a critical march between Russia and China. Russia (which continues to dominate the Mongolian government) and China vie with each other in extending grants and loans, so that Mongolia is currently getting a higher rate of foreign aid per capita than any other nations except possibly Laos and South Vietnam. It has recently received combined promises of \$325 million, more than enough to finance the new \$285 million Five Year Plan, which, if carried out, means an investment each year equal to the total current annual GNP.

Algiers. The elections for independent Algeria's constituent assembly, scheduled for September 2, will be conducted in the orthodox totalitarian manner. There is to be only one party, the FLN. The seven man FLN Politburo, in which Ben Bella has a 5-2 majority, has named all the candidates to the single list, after consultation with the military commanders. Meanwhile Algeria's socio-economic situation continues its headlong decline. Among the six hundred thousand Christians who have fled are virtually all of Algeria's teachers, 90% of her doctors, and a large proportion of those with technical and administrative skills. Of the 130,000 Jews—many of whose ancestors settled in Roman times, centuries before Arabs arrived—only 10,000 remain.



"Just sit down and tell me what your trouble is."

Usumbura, Burundi. The Belgian paratroopers have left both Rwanda and Burundi with less disturbance than expected, though Rwanda maintains a curfew and many roadblocks to guard against operations by Watusi exiles. Both nationettes have coffee—now in worldwide surplus—as the single basis of their economy. Production started rapidly down last year, with self-government, and is expected to drop this year, with independence, to less than half of 1959: mostly, according to observers, because the native inhabitants do not like to work hard, and will not do so except under the kind of tough supervision that the departed Belgian managers provided. Though much of the land is excellent for cattle, they raise only a breed with long, lyre-shaped horns, which they cherish for its beauty; meat for eating is imported from the Congo, Kenya and Uganda. Double-independence is bringing a host of new expenses: several million dollars each for two armies; other millions for two sets of officials, bureaucrats, sleek limousines, and embassies in New York (UN), Washington, London, Brussels and Moscow flossy enough to compete in the foreign aid sweepstakes. The two armies will be the only ones in the world providing both lodging and food for the families of all personnel.

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